the number of cases of dacoity registerd during December, 1998 was 6 as compared to 7 in January, 1999. The figures for the corresponding months of the preceding year were as follows:

	December, 1997	January, 1998
Murder	45	52
Robbery	41	49
Dacoity	4	3

(c) The stepstaken to effectively combat the crime in Delhi include intensificaiton of beat patrolling; high visibility of police in vulnerabel areas; surveillance over the activities of known criminals; improvement in intelligence gathering including exchange of information about criminals through periodic Inter-State Crime Coordination meetings; etc.

ULFA threat to oil wells in Assam

245. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attenton has been drawn to the latest threat of ULFA not to allow oil from new wells in Assam out of the State and to blow them if it is allowed to go out; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government and the Oil industry have been advised to tighten security and take necessary precautionary measures.

Penson benefits to widows of freedom fighters

246. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules with respect to widows of freedom fighters receiving pension benefits after demise of their husbands;

(b) whether it is a fact that delay usually occurs in release of pensions to widows of freedom fighters;

(c) whether any representations in this regard from West Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh are pending; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Under the provisions of the Scheme, widows of deceased freedom fighter pensioners are entitled to family pension till their death or remarriage, whichever is earlier. They are required to apply for family pension to the Pension Disbursing Officer (Bank Manager or District Treasury Officer),in the prescribed format, with the requisite documents, such as, original copy of the Pension Payment Order (PPO), death certificate, certificate or affidavit indicating the applicant's relationship with the deceased freedom fighter, etc. Thereafter, the pension is transffered to the widow after the Pension Disbursing Officer is satisfied about the bona fide of the claim.

(b) Usually, no dealy occurs in respect of cases where all the requisite formalities are complied by the applicants.

(c) Representations received in this regard are attended to promptly. No such representation is pending.

(d) Does not arise.